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characterized by a centralized system and a money economy, the feudal state by decentralization and landed estates. Just as the feudal state disintegrated through the emancipation of the peasantry, so the constitutional state, founded on capitalistic exploitation, will disappear when the "political means" shall have been supplanted by a "freeman's citizenship." In the new state wealth, which means dominion over men, will give place to well-being, which means control over consumption goods.

Like the author's other books, and especially *Die soziale Frage und der Sozialismus*, the scope of this work is an illustration of the desirability of retaining that sense of the unity of the social sciences which is in danger of being lost in the present tendency toward narrow specialization. It has an equal interest for the sociologist, the economist, and the political scientist. Without always being convincing, it throws illuminating light on certain vital questions in each of these fields.

ULYSSES G. WEATHERLY.

Indiana University.

The Economic Organisation of England. An Outline History. By WILLIAM JAMES ASHLEY. (London: Longmans, Green and Company. 1914. Pp. viii, 213. \$.90.)

Those who are interested in economic history may count it a happy chance that called Professor Ashley to Hamburg in 1912, for a course of lectures in the Colonial Institute. The eight lectures, now printed in this book, provide a brief survey of economic history which is by far the best of those known to the reviewer in English or in other language.

Starting with the manor of the thirteenth century the book covers successively the guilds, the break-up of the manor, the rise of foreign trade and capitalism, domestic industry and Tudor policy, recent agricultural changes, the industrial revolution and freedom of contract, and, finally, the period of joint stock and the evolution of capitalism. The book closes with an appendix containing suggestions for further reading. It is really astonishing that in less than 200 pages the author has succeeded in sketching as clearly as he has done so many important features of economic development; and the reader is reminded again of the truth of E. A. Freeman's dictum that the way to write a good small book on any subject is to write first a large one.

Professor Ashley's keen interest in the present organization

has preserved him from wandering in the by-paths of the past; he has resisted, with a candid expression of regret, the temptation to discuss the vexed questions of institutional origins; and he has managed, in spite of the brevity of his sketch, to give it life by the use of numerous concrete illustrations from history and literature. Years ago he expressed the opinion that "everybody must be heartily sick" of the quotation from Latimer's sermon describing the position of the yeoman farmer; but Latimer appears again along with Jack of Newbury, and other stock figures of the past. At the Boston meeting of the Historical Association in 1899, Professor Ashley protested against the use of the vague terms *Geldwirtschaft* and *Naturalwirtschaft*; but he introduces the terms here without apology and, indeed, with great respect. Surely, he has been very sensible, to subordinate the critical to the constructive faculty; and the reviewer can only express his cordial admiration of the result.

CLIVE DAY.

Yale University.

Die wirtschaftliche Entwicklung von Alaska (und Yukon Territory). Ein Beitrag zu Geschichte und Theorie der Konzentrationsbewegung. By EDGAR SALIN. Archiv für Sozialwissenschaft und Sozialpolitik, Ergänzungsheft XII. (Tübingen: Verlag von J. C. B. Mohr. 1914. Pp. viii, 226, map. 5 M.)

This interesting contribution to the discussion of the Alaskan problem is divided into three principal parts. After a brief introduction outlining the history of the country and its chief geographic features, the first part presents a thorough and exhaustive analysis of its economic resources and its industries. The second part reviews the generally accepted theories of the movement towards concentration in modern industry and then illustrates these theories at length by drawing upon the data of Alaskan experience. The third and, to the American reader, most interesting part, presents conclusions as to the wisest policy to be pursued in attempting to foster the development of the huge natural resources of our great northwestern possession.

The work impresses one as being a thoroughgoing study. The material for part one has been gathered from a great variety of sources: from public documents, travelers' observations, popular fiction touching Alaskan life, and apparently (though the state-